

**Appl. No.** : **10/695,523**  
**Filed** : **October 28, 2003**

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. The listing of claims present each claim with its respective status shown in parentheses. Only those claims being amended herein show their changes in highlighted form, i.e., insertions appear as underlined text (e.g., insertions) while deletions appear as strikethrough text (e.g., ~~deletions~~). All previously amended claims appear as clean text.

#### **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A golf club grip that includes an elongated composite strip, said strip comprising:

a first segment paving a backing layer to the upper surface of which is bonded a layer of polyurethane, with the upper surface of the polyurethane being heat-embossed with a friction enhancing pattern engaged by a player's ~~players~~ hands, the friction enhancing pattern defining water collection interstices, with water collected in the in the interstices being readily wiped off to dry the outside of the strip, the upper surface of the polyurethane layer being densified and rendered substantially water-tight by the heat embossing;

a second segment paving a backing layer to the upper surface of which is bonded a layer of polyurethane and with depressed decorative indicia being embossed on the upper surface area of such second segment to densify the polyurethane thereof;

adhesive on the underside of the backing layers of the first and second segments; and

with a side edge of the first segment being adhesively attached along one of its side edges to a side edge of the second segment to define said composite strip.

2. (Original) A golf club grip as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the friction enhancing pattern includes a large number of repetitive shapes which define the water collection interstices.

3. (Original) A golf club grip as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the backing layers are felt.

4. (Original) A golf club grip as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the backing layers include an EVA.

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5. (Original) A golf club grip as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the side edges of the polyurethane layers of the first and second segments are heat-compressed so as to define recessed reinforcement side edges and outwardly and downwardly slanted skived side edges are formed along the length of the backing layer of such segments.

6. (Original) A golf club grip as set forth in Claim 5, wherein the adhesive of the backing layer of the first segment is initially covered by a peel-off tape that is scored along one side to define a band that covers a skived side edge of said backing layers, said band being removed for attachment to a recessed reinforcement side edge of the second segment.

7. (Currently Amended) A slip-on golf club grip comprising:  
an elongated composite strip that includes a first segment having a backing layer to the upper surface of which is bonded a layer of polyurethane, with the upper surface of the polyurethane being heat-embossed with a friction enhancing pattern engaged by a player's players-hands, the friction enhancing pattern defining water collection interstices, with water-collected in the interstices being readily wiped off to dry the outside of the strip, the upper surface of the polyurethane layer being densified and rendered substantially water-tight by the heat embossing, and a second segment that includes a backing layer to the upper surface of which is bonded a coating of polyurethane, and with depressed decorative indicia being embossed on the upper surface area of such second segment to densify the polyurethane layer thereof;

adhesive on the underside of the backing felt-layers;

with a side edge of the first segment being adhesively attached along its side edge to a side edge of the second segment to define said composite strip; and

a resilient underlisting sleeve about which the strip composite is spirally wrapped and adhered.

8. (Currently Amended) A slip-on golf club grip as set forth in Claim 7, wherein heat compressed radially inwardly extending reinforcement side edges are formed in the polyurethane layer of the segments along the length of the segments, and outwardly and downwardly slanted side edges are formed along the length of the backing layer felt-layer of the segments whereby when the strip is spirally wrapped about the sleeve to define said grip the underside of the adjoining recessed side edges are overlapped by the slanted side edges to define a water retarding joint between the adjoining side edges.

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9. (Currently Amended) A slip-on golf club grip as set forth in Claim 8, wherein the backing layer is of felt.

10. (Currently Amended) A slip-on golf club grip as set forth in Claim 8, wherein the backing layer includes an EVA.

11. (Currently Amended) A slip-on golf club grip as set forth in Claim 8, wherein the friction enhancing pattern includes a large number of repetitive shapes which define the water collection interstices.

12. (Currently Amended) A slip-on golf club grip as set forth in Claim 8, wherein the adhesive of the backing layer of the first segment is initially covered by a peel-off tape that is scored along one side to define a band that covers a skived side edge of said backing layer, said band being removed for attachment to a recessed reinforcement side edge of the second segment.

13. (Currently Amended) The combination of a golf club having a handle and a resilient grip wherein the resilient grip comprises:

a first segment having a backing layer to the upper surface of which is bonded a layer of polyurethane, with the upper surface of the polyurethane being heat-embossed with a friction enhancing pattern engaged by a player's players-hands, the friction enhancing pattern defining water collection interstices, with water collected in the interstices being readily wiped off to dry the outside of the strip, the upper surface of the polyurethane layer being densified and rendered substantially water-tight by the heat embossing;

a second segment having a backing layer of felt to the upper surface of which is bonded a coating of polyurethane and with depressed decorative indicia being embossed on the upper area of such second segment to densify the polyurethane layer thereof;

with a side edge of one segment being attached adhesively along its side edge to a side edge of the other segment to define said strip;

a resilient underlisting sleeve about which the composite strip is spirally wrapped and adhered; and

with the sleeve being positioned upon the handle of the golf club.

14. (Currently Amended) The combination as set forth in Claim 13, wherein heat compressed radially inwardly extending reinforcement side edges are formed in the polyurethane layer of the segments along the length of the segments, and outwardly and downwardly slanted

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side edges are formed along the length of the backing layer ~~felt layer~~ of the segments whereby when the strip is spirally wrapped about the sleeve to define said grip the underside of the adjoining recessed side edges are overlapped by the slanted side edges to define a water retarding joint between the adjoining side edges.

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#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to originally numbered Figures 20-23 and 23-26, filed as drawing sheets 6 and 7. These sheets, which include newly renumbered Figures 20A-23A and 20B-23B, replace originally filed sheets 6 and 7. In particular, sheet 6 now has Figures 20A-23A. Sheet 7 has been amended such that the figures are renumbered as 20B-23B. Sheet 7 has further been amended to include appropriate reference numerals corresponding to the description of like elements in the specification.